

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A quadrature modulator comprising a local oscillator for oscillating at an oscillation frequency equal to $4/(2N+1)$ times a carrier frequency where N is a natural number, a frequency conversion block for multiplying said oscillation frequency by a factor of $(2N+1)/2$, a first frequency divider to divide an output from said frequency conversion block by a factor of two to output a pair of carrier waves having therebetween a phase difference of 90 degrees, first and second multipliers for modulating said carrier waves with a digital baseband signal to output a pair of modulated signals, and an adder for adding said modulated signals together to output a digital carrier signal having said carrier frequency.

2. The quadrature modulator as defined in claim 1, wherein said N is equal to "1", and said frequency conversion block includes a second frequency divider for dividing said oscillation frequency by a factor of two to generate a divided frequency, a frequency mixer for mixing outputs from said local oscillator and said frequency divider to generate a first signal having a frequency equal to a sum of said oscillation frequency and said divided frequency.

3. The quadrature modulator as defined in claim 2, wherein said frequency conversion block further includes a band-pass-filter (BPF) for removing an image signal from said first signal.

4. The quadrature modulator as defined in claim 2, wherein said frequency mixer is a double-balanced mixer.

5. The quadrature modulator as defined in claim 1, wherein said N is equal to or more than "2", and said frequency conversion block includes a second frequency divider for dividing said oscillation frequency by a factor of two to output a divided frequency, N frequency mixers cascaded from one another for mixing said oscillation frequency and said divided frequency or an output from a preceding one of said frequency mixers to output a first signal having a frequency equal to a sum of said oscillation frequency and said divided frequency or a frequency of another first signal output from said preceding one of said frequency mixers.

6. The quadrature modulator as defined in claim 5, wherein said frequency conversion block further includes a BPF cascaded from an N -th one of said frequency

mixers to remove an image signal from said first signal
5 from said N-th one of said frequency mixers.

7. The quadrature modulator as defined in claim 5,
wherein each of said frequency mixers is a double-
balanced mixer.

8. A method comprising the steps of generating a
oscillation frequency equal to $4/(2N+1)$ times a carrier
frequency where N is a natural number, multiplying said
oscillation frequency by a factor of $(2N+1)/2$, dividing
said multiplied oscillation frequency by a factor of two to
generate a pair of orthogonal carrier waves having said
carrier frequency, modulating said orthogonal carrier
waves with a digital baseband signal to output a carrier
signal having said carrier frequency.